

U BOAT WAR TO GO ON, GERMAN REPLY INSISTS

Bernstorff's Instructions.
May Reopen Entire Submarine Issue.
URGES THAT CITIZENS OF U. S. BE WARNED
Coming Campaign Does Not Nullify Assurances to U. S. Is Plea.

PROOFS SUBMITTED OF THE SECRET ORDERS
Hint Teutons Might Relent If Allies Stop Attacks by Merchant Ships.

CAMPAIGN WILL GO ON, SAYS OFFICIAL ORG.
Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
BERLIN, via London, Feb. 27.—The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, the official German newspaper, says today:
"The energetic prosecution of our submarine campaign will be begun on the date announced, March 1. If President Wilson maintains that these measures are opposed to the explicit assurances of Germany and Austria, such contention rests upon a misunderstanding, since these assurances referred only to peaceful, not armed, passenger vessels."

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—Count von Bernstorff received from his Government today an outline of Germany's position regarding her announced intention of compelling all armed enemy ships without warning after February 29.
This outline he will present to Secretary of State Lansing within the next two days. He will arrange for an appointment as soon as he has received certain additional data being sent from Berlin.
As hitherto forecast, the memorandum received today may open the way for a discussion of the whole question of the distinction between merchant ships armed for defense and those armed for offense, but contrary to expectations of the State Department and the embassy communication does not offer to suspend the operation of the new submarine campaign pending this discussion.
The campaign will begin as scheduled on March 1 unless the Entente Powers give solemn assurances that the guns on their merchant ships will not be used offensively against submarines. All persons, whether American or of other nationality, who travel on armed ships belonging to any of the belligerent nations with Germany will do so at their peril.

Answer to a Query.
In form the memorandum, it was learned authoritatively, is merely an answer to an observation made to the Ambassador eleven days ago by Secretary Lansing. On that occasion Mr. Lansing received from the Ambassador two documents, one a memorandum from Berlin agreeing to a settlement of the Lusitania controversy "substantially" and the other the copy of a circular warning sent out by Germany to all neutral Governments advising them to take steps for the safety of their armed enemy merchantmen without warning.

Mr. Lansing observed to the Ambassador that this circular, appearing to be inconsistent with past assurances given by Germany that "liners would not be attacked without warning and without adequate compensation," and that "non-combatants on board, provided these liners did not attempt to resist or escape capture," he desired to inquire of Germany whether she was prepared to stand by her past assurances. He added that sending a settlement of this point he would hold the Lusitania matter open.
In the morning the Berlin Foreign Embassy today the Berlin Foreign Office directs Ambassador von Bernstorff to inform the American Government that Germany is prepared to stand by her past assurances, and does not regard her campaign against armed enemy ships as nullifying these assurances.

The attention of the American Government is called to Germany's understanding that the Lusitania controversy in no way dealt with armed liners; that the first American note on the Lusitania case dated May 13, 1915, specifically referred to the ship as being "unarmed."

No Right to Arm.
On the other hand, the Ambassador is directed to say that Germany's position consistently has been that merchant vessels have no right to arm, mere restrictions as to the extent of armament affording no guarantee that ships armed for defensive purposes only will not be used for offensive purposes under certain circumstances.

In this connection attention is called to a communication of the German Foreign Office of October 15, 1914, to the American Government, transmitted through Ambassador Gerard at Berlin, protesting against permission being granted to the United States for the arming of merchantmen of a belligerent country, claiming from any of its ports a private ship.

In support of the German contention that the arming of merchant vessels for defensive purposes does not insure its use for offensive purposes, Ambassador von Bernstorff is directed to lay before Secretary Lansing a list of alleged circumstances in which twenty-five cases investigated by German authorities showed where enemy merchantmen have used their

PRINCIPLE IS MY GUIDE—NOT EXPEDIENCY--WILSON

"America Ought to Keep Out of This War at Sacrifice of Everything Except Her Sense of Humanity and Justice."

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—President Wilson told members of the Christian Club and its guests at the annual dinner of the organization last night that violation of the essential traditions of America would be the only justification for the United States entering the European war.
The President spoke in the protection of the club's confidence, which has shielded many remarkable utterances by public men in the past, but last night's speech was given out at the White House, both President Wilson and the club having consented to its publication.
"America ought to keep out of this war," said the President, "she ought to keep out of this war at the sacrifice of everything except this single thing upon which her character and history are founded, her sense of humanity and justice."

"If she sacrifices that she has ceased to be America," he said, "she has ceased to be America, and when we go about seeking safety at the expense of humanity then I for one will believe that we have been mistaken in what I have conceived to be the spirit of American history."

President Wilson evidently had the foreign policy in mind when he made this observation.
"I would a great deal rather know what they are talking about around quiet firesides all over this country than what they are talking about in the cloakrooms of Congress."

Answer to Criticisms.
President Wilson's speech was regarded as an answer to criticisms by Senators and Representatives that his present negotiations with Germany might be a "sell-out" to the enemy.

Mr. Wilson was frequently cheered in the course of his address and received an ovation as he took his seat, being obliged to arise and bow his acknowledgments.
There was one feature of the President's speech that was obviously intended as an explanation of the explanation of the President's speech, which was embodied in an address made by Mr. Wilson in Philadelphia a few days after the sinking of the Lusitania. This explanation of "two proud to fight" came at the close of the address last night.

"Value is self-respecting," said the President. "Value is circumspect. Value is proud to fight. Value is proud to strike. Value withholds itself from all small complications and entanglements and waits for the great opportunity when the sword of heaven upon its blade is raised high above the clouds."
This is the first time in the history of the Gridiron Club, which has been giving dinners for more than thirty years, that a speech delivered under its auspices has been given to the public. The club dinners are conducted under a rule that reporters are never permitted to attend.

This state was made public as a result of requests made by many who attended the dinner.
The copy of the speech given out at the White House was prefaced with the statement:
"So many requests from those attending the dinner that the following principles of human liberty and of humanity, and whenever it bases its policy upon any other foundations than those it builds on the sand and not upon solid rock."

Mr. Wilson's Speech.
The text of the speech follows:
"I have very little to say to-night, except to express my warm appreciation of the hearty courtesy of the Christian Club, a speech delivered under its auspices has been given to the public. The club dinners are conducted under a rule that reporters are never permitted to attend."

Principle, Not Expediency.
"The point in national affairs, gentlemen, never is expedient. It is principle. It always rests in the field of principle. The United States was not founded upon any principle of expediency; it was founded upon the principle of human liberty and of humanity, and whenever it bases its policy upon any other foundations than those it builds on the sand and not upon solid rock."

It seems to me that the most enlightening thing a man can do is suggested by something which the President said to-night. He complained that he found men who, when their attention was called to the signs of spring, did not see the blue heaven, did not see the movement of the free clouds, did not think of the great spaces of the quiet continent, but thought only of some immediate and pressing piece of business. It seems to me that if you do not think of the things that lie beyond and away from and disconnected from this scene in which we attempt to think and conclude you will inevitably be led astray."

"I would a great deal rather know what the men on the trains and by the wayside are thinking about and yearning to hear and yearning to read by picking up the things that are printed and that is only one way to hear these things, and that is constantly to go back to the fountains of American life, and to find out what is going on in the recently discovered sources."

"Senator Harding was saying just now that we ought to act in the same simplicity of principle that our forefathers acted in when we were 3,000,000 strong. I heard somebody say, 'I do not know the exact statistics, but the present population of the United States is 100,000,000.'"

"If there are 3,000,000 thinking the same things that that original 3,000,000 thought, the 100,000,000 will be saved for an illustrious future. They were ready

DRP HERVEY, AD WHITNEY, WHITMANTON

Leaders Bring Pressure for Withdrawal of Service Board Choices.

SENATE TO HEAR THOSE WHO OPPOSE
THOMPSON CONFIDENT.

ALBANY, Feb. 27.—Renewed pressure during the last few days has been brought upon Gov. Whitman by his own political friends to withdraw from the State Senate his nominations of Charles S. Hervey and Travis H. Whitney, whom he named to be the representatives of Brooklyn upon the New York Public Service Commission without consulting the Brooklyn Republican leaders.

The Governor, one of two of his advisers doubt the political expediency of such a move, and Mr. Whitney's friends in the Senate are considering the advisability of extracting the Governor from the dilemma in which he finds himself with the Brooklyn Republican organization by joining with Senators Thompson, Lawson and the other Brooklyn Republicans in rejecting the nominations, following the secret hearing which the Senate Finance Committee is to accord to the nominees on Tuesday afternoon.

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WINE SINKS, 147 ARE LOST

Maloja, Persia's Sister Ship, Destroyed Off Dover—No Americans on Her.

VESSEL COMING TO RESCUE BLOWN UP
Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
LONDON, Feb. 27.—The 12,500-ton passenger steamer Maloja, one of the newest ships of the Peninsular and Oriental Line, struck a mine at 10.30 this morning when midway between Dover and Folkestone and sank within thirty minutes.

There were 119 passengers and a crew of about 200 aboard. Almost all of the passengers were reported saved late tonight. No Americans are believed to have been aboard.

The Times estimates the total number of drowned at 147. Of this number 117 were passengers. Among the dead in Mrs. Maloja, wife of Brig. Gen. Sir Donald James MacLeod, daughter of Major J. Nicholas MacLeod, daughter of Major J. Nicholas MacLeod, daughter of Major J. Nicholas MacLeod.

While helping in the rescue work the British steamship Empress of Port William, of 1,381 tons gross, struck a mine within a few minutes of the Maloja and immediately began to settle. She kept above the water long enough to enable the crew to take to the boats. The Empress was later sighted and she disappeared in a cloud of steam.

Dutch Vessel Destroyed.
A third victim of a mine today was the Dutch mailboat Mecklenburg. Passengers and crew were saved by two Dutch steamships. In consequence of the Mecklenburg's sinking the service between England and Holland was stopped this afternoon.

There is considerable speculation here tonight on the presence of so many mines in these waters which are being continually swept by Admiralty trawlers. It may be that the recent heavy storm in the North Sea has loosened anchored mines or that German patrol boats have been able to penetrate into the neighborhood of Dover.

A score of those aboard the Maloja were blown to pieces when the explosion occurred.
The Maloja was the largest of the Peninsular and Oriental Line's fleet. The cargo she was carrying was very valuable.

The rescue work with the lines of the Maloja was admirable. The discipline among the passengers was admirable. They emphasized that the last survivors were saved by the Empress of Port William.

The captain of the Empress of Port William says he saw eight boats on the Maloja's side which could not be lowered because of the list.

Maloja Sister Ship of Persia.
The Maloja, one of the newest liners in the Mediterranean service, was bound from London to Bombay. She was the sister ship of the Persia, which was sunk last night by a mine off the coast of the island of Crete on December 20 with the loss of 235 persons out of 450 on board. Among those lost with the Persia was the American Consul to Aten, Robert N. McNeely.

A large number of mail sacks were lost with the Maloja. The rescue of the survivors was successful in this case. The Peninsular and Oriental Line to the fact that only yesterday the Maloja's captain had instructed the passengers to leave the ship in case of an emergency.

The survivors were being landed at Dover. Their wants are being attended to at the Lord Warlen Hotel and on a hospital ship. Almost all of the passengers were saved.

The ship's boats had been swung out ready for emergency. The passengers fortunately had time to get on their feet. Their belongings were saved. The previous evening in their use. The captain reports that all the passengers and the crew behaved splendidly.

Rescuers from Dover late to-night gave the details of the disaster. The Maloja sank about two miles off shore. The explosion was heard and seen at Dover, and tugs and motor boats raced promptly to her aid. Patrol boats also responded speedily to the Maloja's distress calls. Crowds ashore watched the rescue work. The Maloja quickly began to sink. The sea was soon running over the left side of her bridge, then the liner tilted greatly to starboard, whereupon she rolled over until the starboard side was submerged and the decks were perpendicular. Some after this the Maloja turned turtle and a cloud of steam.

VERDUN BATTLE SLACKENS; RING OF STEEL CLOSING ON

GERMANS AT DOUAUMONT

BERLIN AND PARIS REPORTS ON DOUAUMONT FIGHTING
REGARDING the situation on the heights of Douaumont, north of Verdun, on which the French and German official statements do not agree, the latter says:
On the heights of the Meuse the French attempted by means of attacks, five times repeated with fresh troops, to reconquer the armored fortress of Douaumont. They were repulsed with sanguinary losses.

The French night communiqué says that the intensity of the fighting in this region has slackened somewhat, and adds:
To the east and the west of the position of Douaumont, the slopes of which are covered with dead Germans, our troops are pressing closely from three sides the small enemy forces which were able to gain a foothold there and which are maintaining themselves there with difficulty.

Berlin asserts that the Cote de Talon, west of Douaumont, is occupied by German forces. Paris announces that the position is not held by either side, being untenable owing to the whirling fire to which it is subjected. Earlier official reports from Paris said that strong German attacks in this region were broken down by artillery and machine gun fire.

VERDUN HAIL OF SHELL MOST TERRIFIC OF WAR

French Batteries Enfilade and Cut Down Long Lines of Advancing Germans—"Fort" at Douaumont Demantled a Year Ago and Had No Garrison.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
LONDON, Feb. 27.—The German drive against Verdun slackened somewhat in intensity to-day over most of the line, which now lies directly under the guns of the most northerly forts. Narrowing their heaviest attacks to the short front between the Douaumont heights and the plateau north of the village of Vaux, to the east, the Germans concentrated their efforts, but failed to gain ground.

The position of Fort Douaumont—the French official communiqué does not call it a fort, but a "position"—is still occupied by small German forces. The French are closing in on this position on three sides and announce that the German force is maintaining itself only with difficulty.

The very unfavorable weather conditions, with a heavy fall of snow, may be one reason for the lessening of the force of the German attack; despatches from the front indicate that heavy rain has been falling in the area of the village of Vaux, to the east of Douaumont, which has been the center of the heaviest fighting, are covered with German dead, according to the official communiqué issued in Paris to-night.

Five separate attacks have been made by the French in an effort to retake Fort Douaumont, the German War Office says. Each attack was made by fresh troops, but all five were repulsed with heavy French losses. The number of unwounded French prisoners taken in the seven days battles of the Verdun statement says, has reached 15,000.

Ending the position untenable because of the fire of the artillery of the Cote de Talon, the French have evacuated the Cote de Talon, to the west of Douaumont, and the position is now unoccupied, the French say, by either side.

Between Soissons and Rheims a destructive fire was directed against the opposing works in front of Verdun, which are now being shelled by the enemy in the course of the day, except between the height of Douaumont and the plateau to the north of the village of Vaux, where a strong attack made on our positions was repulsed. To the east and the west of the position of Douaumont, the slopes of which are covered with dead Germans, our troops are pressing closely from three sides the small enemy forces which were able to gain a foothold there and which are maintaining themselves there with difficulty.

According to the latest reports the Cote de Talon, rendered untenable by the fire of the French artillery, has been evacuated by the Germans, and the position is now unoccupied, the French say, by either side.

In the Vosges there was an artillery duel at Hartmannswillerkopf. We brought under our fire and dispersed several German detachments in the region of Senones.

Germans Take Champenille.
In the official statement received today from Berlin, the German War Office announces that the Germans, pressing forward to the west of Douaumont, have reached Nave, on the southern border of the Douaumont heights, and have taken Champenille and the Cote de Talon on the way. The taking of Champenille had already been announced by the German War Office. They were repulsed with sanguinary losses. To the west of the fort we took Champenille and the Cote de Talon, advancing to Nave. To the east of the fort we started the extended fortified works of Hartmannswillerkopf.

On the Woerpe plain there was vigorous fighting from the German frontier as far as the Cote de Talon, where the French were repulsed.

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